



## FACTS ABOUT MDMA

ECSTASY  
& MOLLY



DEA PHOTO

### What is it?

**MDMA**, also known as **Ecstasy**, is a synthetic chemical. The popular nickname **Molly** (slang for molecular) often refers to the supposedly "pure" crystalline powder form of MDMA, usually sold in capsules. However, people who purchase powder or capsules sold as Molly often actually get other drugs such as synthetic cathinones ("bath salts") instead. It is not safe to use.

### How is it used?

**MDMA** can be in powder form, in tablet or capsules, and taken orally. It can be diluted in liquid and consumed by drinking, and sometimes the powder form is ingested by snorting.

### What does MDMA do to the body and mind?

- As a stimulant drug, it increases **heart rate and blood pressure**. Users may experience muscle tension, involuntary teeth clenching, nausea, blurred vision, faintness, chills, or sweating.
- It causes changes in perception, including euphoria and increased sensitivity to touch, energy, sensual and sexual arousal, need to be touched, and need for stimulation.
- Clinical studies suggest that MDMA may increase the risk of long-term perhaps permanent, **problems with memory and learning**.

## Did you know?

- MDMA is a Schedule I controlled substance, meaning it has a **high potential for abuse**, no currently accepted medical use for treatment in the United States, and a lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision
- In high doses, MDMA can affect the body's ability to regulate temperature, which can lead to **serious health complications** and **possible death**.
- In 2016, annual prevalence of MDMA declined significantly among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders (1.0, 1.8, and 2.7 percent, respectively).

Source: 2017 Monitoring the Future Study, University of Michigan.

## True or False?

The effects of MDMA only last three to six hours.  
**False**

**Fact:** MDMA's effects do last about 3-6 hours, although many users take a second dose as the effects of the first dose begin to fade. Over the course of the week following moderate use of the drug, a person may experience a range of mental and physical effects.

For drug prevention information, visit DEA's websites:

**GetSmartAboutDrugs.com**

*For Parents, Caregivers, and Educators*

**JustThinkTwice.com**

*For Teens*

**CampusDrugPrevention.gov**

*For College Professionals*

**dea.gov**

8/2018